Visa for senior citizens

3862. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to issue visa to the senior citizens at Wagha border to go to Pakistan; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government have proposed to the Government of Pakistan that either country grant visa on arrival to senior citizens at the Attari/Wagah Border Crossing.

Bilateral relations with Myanmar

3863. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so far India did not have a "proactive policy" to have comprehensive bilateral relations with Myanmar as compared to other East-Asian countries so far as trade; terrorism and its allied ramifications are concerned;

(b) if so, with the fruitful visit of Minister and multi- dimensional mutual discussions, efforts be intensified so that a beginning could be made towards effective cracking down on insurgent groups, mostly of North East, who maintain their training camps on the Myanmarese side; and

(c) by when the decision taken jointly in January, 2007 to fence certain stretches of the border so that ULFA militants not be able to flee to Myanmar side, would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No. Government have always engaged proactively with Myanmar to promote bilateral relations.

(b) and (c) The External Affairs Minister paid an official visit to Myanmar from 19-21 January 2007. During his meetings with the Myanmar leadership, the full range of bilateral relations was discussed including the activities of